

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 10, 14, 16, 29, 31, 35, and 38-45, without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter.

Please amend Claims 1, 8, 11, 17, 24, and 26, to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus capable of outputting an image based on data for output generated by an external apparatus on a recording medium, comprising:

a sending unit adapted to send, from the image forming apparatus to the external apparatus, acquisition information for acquiring data and layout information necessary for assigning an image based on the data to the recording medium having a predetermined size so as to cause the external apparatus to acquire the data in accordance with the sent acquisition information and generate data for output, wherein the image based on the data for output can be accommodated in the predetermined size based on the acquired data and the sent layout information, the layout information including information on the recording medium having the predetermined size; and

an acquisition unit adapted to acquire the data for output generated by the external apparatus,

wherein the external apparatus generates the data for output based on the acquisition information sent by said sending unit and the layout information sent by said sending unit.

2. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the acquisition information for acquiring the data is information for identifying the data.

3. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the information for identifying the data is represented by URI.

4. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a reception unit adapted to receive a print instruction including the acquisition information indicating the position of storage of data and the layout information,

wherein said sending unit sends to the external apparatus the acquisition information and the layout information included in the print instruction received by said reception unit.

5. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said acquisition unit acquires the data for output through a network.

6. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information on the recording medium is information indicating a sheet size or a layout direction.

7. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the layout information is information designating a page and said acquisition unit acquires the data for output corresponding to the designated page.

8. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1 [[38]], wherein the structured description language is XML or HTML.

9. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus is a printing apparatus.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus capable of outputting an image based on data for output generated by an external apparatus on a recording medium, comprising:

a reception unit adapted to receive layout information required for assigning an image based on data to a recording medium having a first size, the received layout information including information on the recording medium having the first size;

a changing unit adapted to change the layout information received by said reception unit to layout information assigning an image based on the data to a recording medium having a second size different from the first size, the changed layout information including information on the recording medium having the second size;

a sending unit adapted to send, from the image forming apparatus to the external apparatus, the layout information changed by said changing unit so as to cause the external apparatus to generate data for output, wherein the image based on the data for output can be accommodated in the second size based on the sent layout information; and

an acquisition unit adapted to acquire the data for output generated by the external apparatus, based on the layout information sent by said sending unit.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the information on the recording medium is information indicating a sheet size.

14-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming method in an image forming apparatus for outputting an image based on data for output generated by an external apparatus on a recording medium, comprising the steps of:

sending, from the image forming apparatus to the external apparatus, acquisition information for acquiring data and layout information necessary for assigning an image based on the data to the recording medium having a predetermined size so as to cause the external apparatus to acquire the data in accordance with the sent acquisition information and generate data for output, wherein the image based on the data for output can be accommodated in the predetermined size based on the acquired data and the sent layout information, the layout information including information on the recording medium having the predetermined size; and

acquiring data for output generated by the external apparatus,

wherein the external apparatus generates the data for output based on the acquisition information and the layout information sent in said sending step.

18. (Previously Presented) An image forming method according to claim 17, wherein the acquisition information for acquiring the data is information for identifying the data.

19. (Original) An image forming method according to claim 18, wherein the information for identifying the data is represented by URI.

20. (Previously Presented) An image forming method according to claim 17, further comprising steps of:

receiving a print instruction including the acquisition information indicating the position of storage of data and the layout information; and

sending to the external apparatus the acquisition information and the layout information included in the print instruction received in said receiving step.

21. (Previously Presented) An image forming method according to claim 17, wherein the data for output are acquired through a network.

22. (Previously Presented) An image forming method according to claim 17, wherein the information on the recording medium is information indicating a sheet size or a layout direction.

23. (Previously Presented) An image forming method according to claim 17, wherein the layout information is information designating a page and there are acquired the data for output corresponding to the designated page.

24. (Currently Amended) An image forming method according to claim 17 [[41]], wherein the structured description language is XML or HTML.

25. (Original) An image forming method according to claim 17, wherein said method is realized in a printing apparatus.

26. (Currently Amended) An image forming method in an image forming apparatus for outputting an image based on data for output generated by an external apparatus on a recording medium, comprising the steps of:

receiving layout information required for assigning an image based on data to a recording medium having a first size, the received layout information including information on the recording medium having the first size;

changing the received layout information to layout information assigning an image based on the data to a recording medium having a second size different from the first size, the changed layout information including information on the recording medium having the second size;

sending, from the image forming apparatus to the external apparatus, the changed layout information so as to cause the external apparatus to generate data for output, wherein the image based on the data for output can be accommodated in the second size based on the sent layout information; and

acquiring the data for output generated by the external apparatus, based on the layout information sent in said sending step.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) An image forming method according to claim 26, wherein the information on the recording medium is information indicating a sheet size.

29-45. (Cancelled)